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#### China.

The most exciting episode ever known to civilization, the imprisonment, in danger of death, of the European and American Ambassadors to China, has closed, mercifully, with the Allies' capture of Pekin and the rescue of the Ambassadors.

It is to be hoped that diplomacy will reach some peaceful solution of the tangle of many national interests and passions concerned in the Chinese outrage. In directing the influence of the United States toward that end it should be remembered that it is more desirable now to establish in China whatever political situation may be most advantageous to us in the future than to gratify any momentary thirst for vengeance.

Fortunately the resolution shown by the Administration throughout the entire affair will be a strong foundation for a moderate

#### Difference Between the Rebel and the Slave.

The Democratic free silver candidate for President, or, as he would have some people look upon him, the anti-imperialist candidate for President, is being whirled of the ground of rational argument by the flood of his own rhetoric. This passage of his anti-imperialist speech to his neighbors of Lincoln on the night of Thursday last shows that he is floating in an atmosphere of hallucination or worse:

"The Republican party which was not willing that a black man should be sold for \$1,000 now claims that Filipino can be bought for \$2.50. The principle is exactly the same.

Think of it! An American candidate for President likening United States sovereignty over inhabitants of United States territory to the slave holder's title to the enslaved negro! Either BRYAN's words are nonsense or the nation's power must fall to pieces. If its right to suppress re-bellion against its authority be doubtful, it is without the first principle of selfperpetuation.

We will meet Mr. BRYAN on his own kindergarten ground, though, and tell him that there is no comparison between the negro wave, which the Republican party liberated. and the Filipino, whose warfare against the defenders of the Stars and Stripes in the Philippines the Washington Administration is conscientiously and unavoidably laboring to suppress.

For example, the United States to-day owns Mr. BRYAN. That is, he must obey the national law; and if he objects to it and rebels against it, he will, without his consent, be duly punished. If his animosity leads him to take up arms, he will, if necessary, be seriously hurt. And the same is true of the Filipinos.

Although Aguinalpo and his men have turned their arms against the American forces, there is little material difference between them and the Bryan men. The nocratic candidate, for al fine phrases and garbled history, is preaching sedition. He is making an attack upon the United States Government no less vicious but far greater in scale than the domestic riots which were championed by the Chicago platform, and he should be beaten by a more crushing majority than that which beat him four years ago.

#### The Wonderful Development of Western Australia.

Gold has been the basis of the remark able growth of Western Australia in the past few years. Few countries have ever had so large an expansion in population and business interests in so short a time. No other gold fields, in recent years, have had so large a development except the unequalled mines of the Witwatersrand in the Transvaal. The modest beginning of the gold industry was in 1886 when 302 ounces were produced. Twelve years later, the gold output was 1,050,183 ounces and Western Australia headed the list of gold producers in Australasia. The figures for 1899 are not yet at hand, but for the first nine months of the year the gold output was 1,160,000 ounces, valued at \$22,000,000 and in September the yield was 167,076 ounces, valued at \$3,174,450, being \$80,000 more than the best previous monthly record. There has been no pause yet in the steady growth of the industry. Western Ahstralia is now one of the largest gold producers in the world.

Thus the Colony, always poor and obscure till the last decade began, has suddenly tal and skill find profitable employment in a region which, twelve years ago, was almost unknown. The Eldorado behind the sandy, western coast was not discovered till that late day because it was in the midst of a Sahara. The treasure house of the Colony was well guarded by thirst and famine, evils that have now been overcome by the railroads that bind all the great mining centres with the coast and carry enormous quantities of stores and imple ments to the men at the front.

Western Australia bids fair to repeat the history of California, where many thousands of men who came to mine remained to be farmers and stock-raisers, merchants and craftsmen. The garden of the Colony lies in its southwestern part and is larger than the Colony of Victoria. Here wheat fields and pastoral areas are developing as rapidly as the gold mines to supply the incoming population with bread and meat. Immense quantities of wheat and oats, chaff and grain are also required for the camels and other animals employed by the scores of thousands in the barren mining districts. The real agricultural development of the Colony began only in 1895, and four years later imports of chaff from eastern Australia had ceased and the local supply of wheat and flour filled two-thirds of the requirements. The Minister for Lands predicted, last year, that by 1901 all the breadstuffs and fodder would be produced at home. Fruit growing, dairying and hog raising are nearly keeping pace with wheat culture; and the official

growth of agriculture in the past three years, has been unequalled in the history of Australia.

The census to be taken next year is expected to show that the population is eight to ten times as large as in 1891 when it numbered 49,782. There are no data from which a satisfactory estimate of the present population may be made, but the figures for Perth in 1897 give some indication of the great increase. In that year, the population of the capital was 37,929, or nearly three-fourths the total population of the Colony in 1891. In the past ten years, many new towns have arisen, and there are a number of incorporated cities that had no place on the maps a decade ago. In fact, there is some difficulty in keeping the maps abreast with these stirring days of development in Western Australia. It is useless to search maps two years old for many a place that now figures in the news of the Colony; and the cartographers are not keeping up with the tracklayers who are pushing railroads into the desert, up through the agricultural zone and along

Western Australia is becoming one of the lustiest members of the British Colonial Empire. Its future fortunes will be watched with interest.

# The Glacial Period of the Democracy.

According to a Saratoga despatch, while the Hon. AUGUSTUS VAN WYCK "told an Eagle correspondent that he had no gubernatorial aspirations, there is little doubt that he would be willing to lead the Democratio hosts again next fall."

If the Hon. AUGUSTUS VAN WYCK is willing, his willingness should be encouraged. He should not be permitted to be so altruistic as to boom the Hon. JOHN B. STANCHFIELD or anybody else for Governor. He should speak for himself.

The Democratio party is pledged to an unceasing warfare against monopoly. There could be no more beautiful evidence of the sincerity of its rage against Trusts than to make the Hon. AUGUSTUS VAN WYCK the Democratic candidate for Governor.

### The Taste of American Fruit.

An observer was quoted in THE SUN recently as asking, "What has become of the fruit that had a taste?" and as advancing the proposition that as the fruit stands grow large and fine and the fruit offered for sale more beautiful to the eye, its edible quality becomes poorer and poorer. This is the season for fruit, and though abundant in quantity, attractive in appearance and reasonably cheap in price, the fruit offered for sale in New York this year, though wholesome, is pronounced inferior in the quality of taste. To the fruit of old it is as insipid and dead as the new wife's ple is to that which " mother used to make." The reason for the depreciation in the quality of fruit so liberally offered for sale in New York this year is to be found, we imagine, in the satiated palate of the complainant or possibly in the extent of the foreign demand. The recent Treasury figures throw considerable light on the growth of the fruit-exporting business. The chief market for American fruits is England, but all Continental countries, notably Germany and France, demand considerable shipments. Canned fruits are being shipped abroad in larger amounts than heretofore, canned fruits in which the excellence of mechanical processes and the attributes of quantity rather than quality count for the shipper.

These are the figures for the three palendar years named: 1897, \$1,500,000; 1898, \$2,400,000, and 1899, \$3,015,000. The imports of fruit from foreign countries, chiefly Italy, Central America and the West Indies have also been increasing of late years.

# Bad Gambling.

The Baltimore Sun, which has slunk from the support of honest money, pleads that," with a gold standard Senate to hold a silver President and House in check, free coinage is not a practical issue for the time being." This is the wholly specious defence of other pendulums in politics who, having been for McKINLEY four years ago, have swung to BRYAN.

In the past there have been gamblers in stocks, in wheat and in cold cash so daring and big in their operations that they have remained famous even after failure. All these put together are not worth mentioning in the same breath with those who would stake the national honor, something priceless and irrecoverable when lost, on the strength of comforting political prophecy. after the manner of the Baltimore Sun. If BRYAN should be elected the House of Representatives would be his beyond a reasonable doubt, and, practically, the Senate likewise.

The national monetary standard is not a thing to put in jeopardy because some one predicts that a Bryan triumph can be so regulated that it will be ineffective.

In our opinion the advice given to the ball players by Mr. JOHN B. DAY, Inspector of Umpires and Supervisor of Players in the Sational League, is sound. Mr. Dar opposes the formation of a ball players' union. It is mpossible to see how the requirements of sport n be subordinated to union regulations. But that is a question for the players to decide for themselves. If they want to form a union, they are at perfect liberty to do so, and there is no become a most prosperous field for mining. good reason to suppose that union ball, so far agriculture and commerce. Energy, capias concerns its defects as a sport, would be worse than the rowdylsm which flourishes with the consent and approval of the National League. Mr. Day had better apply his energies to eliminating that.

> The shirt waist for man seems to have made considerable progress. It has appeared in more or less volume in almost every large city. A church association in Illinois announces a shirtwaist party, shirt and belt de riqueur, coats and uspenders barred. In Camden, N. J., it has been efficially adopted as the police uniform in hot weather. But the most serious obstacle in its path it has not yet reached. It is bound to be very expensive. So long as it remains a shirt the wash bill must be greatly increased. When a garment that covers a man's entire torso is fully exposed, it must be made of some material that will not readily show dirt, like the stuffs that make coats, or it will soon become unsightly. Men who would wear less clothing will we fear, have to leave off their shirts and cut their coats into round-about jackets like boys-in-buttons, or wear the shirt and coat as they exist to-day

The carrying out of the orders creating 'home battalions" in our army has caused a good deat of injustice to many of the older soldiers, though we are glad to note that it will be remedi d. General Order 153 of Aug. 21, 1898, directed that the home battalions be made up of " \* \* enlisted men who have less than a year to serve." This has caused in some cases the transfer to these battalions of non-commis sioned officers who have served many years and have only a few months to serve before retirement. On transfer, these sergeants and corporals have been reduced to privates, their long service and experience counting for nothing. Adjutant-General CORBIN has interfered in their behalf, finally, and informed publications of the Colony assert that the | commanding officers that such old soldiers are

worthy of all the favors the Government can bestow, and that those who have been reduced on transfer are to be promoted as soon as possible, so that they may retire with their

former grade. This is an act of simple justice.

If our Navy Department has its way the longstanding proverb that sailors never know how to swim will be put out of action, at least in our navy. The Department has adopted a new style of bathing trunk to be worn by sailormen when bathing off their ships. They are required to know how to swim, nowadays, and the bathing trunk is to help along the good work. Half of the crew of a large American man-of-war bathing at once, all arrayed in uniform bathing suits, should be an inspiring sight, and powerfully serve to demolish the above referred to proverb. The issue of these suits should serve also to prevent such a contretemps as is reported from Africa, where a guard was set to prevent soldiers from bathing. Under the threat to fire, a furious and naked man came out of the water, demanding if the sentry could not see that he was an officer. Such an untoward occurrence could not happen in our service hereafter.

### THE CRESCENT IN ALASKA.

Shall It Be a Diminishing Crescent?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Among my earliest geographical impressions, acquired more than fifty years ago, none is less delible than that of the crescent in the boundary between Russian and British America around the head of Lynn Canal and the Chilkoot pass, impressions continuously maintained and deepened by every atlas I have ever owned, in which the cartographers have attempted to delineate the unsurveyed boundary as de-

scribed in the Treaty of 1825. According to the treaty the eastern boundary of Alaska is described as follows: "Commencing at 54 degrees, 40 minutes, north latitude, ascending Portland channel to the mountains, following their summits to the 141st degree west longitude, thence north on this line to the Arctio Ocean."

There is also a provision that the boundary shall not be less than thirty miles from the ocean

following the sinuosities of the coast. The language employed in the treaty is simple, and such as would be least likely to create trouble or misunderstanding. It starts on a given parallel of latitude (54 degrees, 40 minutes) already well known, to cross the outlet of Portland channel; from this parallel the boundary should ascend the channel (a geographical feature not liable to change) to the mountains—to the summits of the mountains, following them to the 141st degree west longitude also a fixed and easily ascertainable line.

The mountains had never been topographically surveyed, and how far they and their summits were or might be from the sinuosities of the coast no one knew; so the map-makers drew their provisional lines as nearly as could be to represent the minimum of thirty miles from the ocean, following the sinuosities of the coast; and in so doing have uniformly produced three well-marked inward curves or crescents.

The first of these curves is at the inlet into which the Taku River flows, in the vicinity of Juneau City. The second is that which you have delineated in your issue of Aug. 6; the great in-sweeping crescent around the nead waters of Lynn Canal, carrying the boundary line across the middle of Lake linderman. on the trail to Dawson City. The third is the sweep around Yakutat Bay, just before reaching 141 degrees west longitude.

In spite of this consistent, undeviating recognition that the "sinuosities of the coast" have dominated every interpretation of the treaty ever made or attempted, our Canadian neighbors have raised two contentions: First, that there are no mountains to be found thirty miles from the coast; and, secondly, that the coast line intended is not a continental line, but a sea-line, far enough out to go through the most westerly point of all the outlying islands, and that the absolute boundary must be arbitrarily run thirty miles eastward of these outlying fragments of land.

By this means they seek to break up the continuity of the continental coast line, and obtain an international boundary cutting across one or more of these arms of the ocean, called canals or channels, which penetrate the continental area many miles inland from the outlying chains of islands.

Now, as to these contentions. There is nothing in the treaty guaranteeing a chain of In spite of this consistent, undeviating recog-

Now, as to these contentions. There is nothing in the treaty guaranteeing a chain of mountains thirty miles from the coast. That there are mountains eastward of the Alaskan frontier is sufficiently well known, and the meaning of the treaty is evident enough that Portland channel should be followed inland

meaning of the treaty is evident enough that Portland channel should be followed inland until the mountains were reached, and that when reached their summits should be followed to the talet degree west longitude.

A topographical survey would reveal the longitudinal height of land all the way from 5 degrees, 40 minutes, to the straight-away line to the Arctic at 141 degrees west longitude.

The purpose of the thirty-mile provision seems to be a secondary precaution against the possibility of the boundary at any point reaching nearer than thirty miles to the continental coast line. If the mountains cannot be found at thirty miles let the line up Portland channel be projected or produced northeastward until the required "mountains" are found, whether the distance be thirty miles or three hundred miles from the coast line.

Prior to the treaty between Russia and Great Britain of 1825 the former claimed the hinterland of Alaska eastward of the Rocky Mountains to the headwaters of the Peace, Nelson and Mackenzie rivers.

When these claims were relinquished, and an understanding expressed in the Treaty of 1825, it seems sufficiently plain that the intention was to concede to Great Britain the territory of the Mackenzie River basin, which would include the tributaries of the Athabasca and Great Slave lakes, making the new boundaries along the summits of the mountains that constitute the watershed between the Pacific and

Great Slave lakes, making the new boundaries along the surmits of the mountains that constitute the watershed between the Pacific and the Mackenzie basin.

atiute the watershed between the Pacific and the Mackenzie basin.

The missing mountains will not be difficult to find, once we get over the false notion that they are necessarily to be found thirty miles from the coast. Go a little further east, to the watersheds of the Ningunsaw, the Iskoot and the Stickine rivers, and we find the missing Alaskan divide, the summits of which we are to follow to the laist degree west longitude. By this reasonable interpretation of the treaty we shall find that the Canadians are claiming a considerable strip of territory eastward of the map makers' conventional line of thirty miles east of the continental shore.

That the boundary is not necessarily to be located just thirty miles from the coast is evident from the following description of Alaska, found in the "Encyclopædia Britannica," 1873:

1873:

Alaska comprises the whole of North America from 141 degrees west longitude to the Behring Sea, and also numerous islands along the coast and the Aleutian Islands, which stretch eastward from the extremity of the peninsula. From the main portion of the territory a narrow strip with a breadth of about fifty miles, extends southeast along the Prefix Coast and terminates at the confines of British Columbia for 54 degrees, 40 minutes.

and terminates at the confines of British Columbia for 54 degrees, 40 minutes.

It will be noted that the above is a British authority and that it was written before Canadian statesmen conceived the ambition of browbeating our Uncle Samuel into moving his boundary over into the ocean!

To a dispassionate mind the language of the Treaty of 1825 does not present serious difficulties. Of course, both parties to the treaty knew very well that no survey of the country had yet been made, so as to permit of a more definite designation of the lower eastern boundary; but language which, in 1825, was satisfactory to both sides should not be contorted in this generation to annul and reverse the plain intent of the framers of the treaty. To delimit an ungurveyed boundary exact topographical knowledge is necessary. It is not enough to send a band of roving surveyers into the wilderness to run tentative or provisional lines. The terms of any truth-seeking modus vivendi should include an immediate and thorough topographical survey of the whole region, taking for a datum-line the level of the sea at 54 degrees 40 minutes north latitude, at the mouth of Portland channel. With a work of this kind, as ably done as the topographical survey by Verplanck Colvin of the Adirondack wilderness of New York, for a basis, the line of the mountain divide between the territory whose waters run into the Pacific Ocean and that whose waters are drained through the line of the mountain divide between the ritory whose waters run ino the Pacific Oc and that whose waters are drained through Mackenzie into the Arctic Ocean would be vealed to every eye, and this cause for irrition between this country and Canada would be forever put to sleep.

GRORGE W. DITHRIDGE. NEW YORK, Aug. 16.

Ilk. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Stry The use of ik" in the sense of "sort" or "kind," like the use of "phenomenal" in the sense of "extraordinary," i becoming so common that something should be done to stop it. Will not THE SUN shed the proper light upon the meanings of the world as properly used to the end that this abuse may cease? I. F. Properly

J. E. PIDGEON. (Tire only correct meaning of "ilk," which is an adjective, is "same." The phrase "of that adjective, is "same. The plants arme name." means of the estate of the same name. I means Kinlock of that ilk means Kinlock of the sense of "of the of Kinlock. To use it in same kind' is incorrect.]

# THE CHINESE SITUATION.

Official reports confirm the statements already received of the entry of the allies into Pekin and the rescue of the envoys. The relief, however, was not effected without loss, as the Chinese appear to have made some resistance. With this, the first phase of the troubles is now ended and the second about to begin. Apparently the allied forces will not retire mmediately from Pekin, as reenforcements under the French General Frey are hurrying up to the front. The next despatches will be awaited with deep interest, as they will make us acquainted with much about which there has been great uncertainty.

One thing, which indicates that the strain of

lieved before the arrival of the allies, is the an-

nouncement from Hong Kong of the departure

of Sir Robert Hart, Director of the Imperial Customs, from Pekin with a Chinese escort, It is not, however, stated what route he had taken to reach the coast, so that here again there is uncertainty. The report that the Dowager Empress with a large escort of Imperial troops under Li Ping Reng, according to one report, and Yuan Ki Shai, according to another, had left Pekin with the intention of retiring to Hsi-an-fu, the capital of Shensi, is of great interest and importance. It has for some time been expected that such a step would One of the objects of so-called Boxer movement has been to get rid of the envoys, and as they would not leave Pekin of their own accord, and their Governments refused to give them instructions to retire, the Chinese Court and Government have accepted the alternative and, so it is said, have left there themselves. Should the report turn out to be true, the next question that arises is whether they have left any one in Pekin authorized to treat with the allies or whether the power recently conferred on Li Hung Chang still holds good and will be recognized by the allied Governments. The situation would become exceedingly complicated should the Powers or some of them insist on regarding Pekin as still the capital, notwithstanding the absence of the court, and refuse to treat anywhere else. Hsi-an-fu, the capital of Shensi is nearly seven hundred miles southwest of Pekin near the junction of the Hwei-ho with the Hoang-ho. With the primitive mode of travelling prevailing in China, such a journey is a matter of at least two months or more, and during it communication with the sovereign and executive power would be practically suspended, and when the court had established itself at Hsi-an-fu the distance would be a great obstacle to satisfactory negotiation. There is one point worth noting in regard to this matter, that is the fact that from Tsi-nan, the capital of Shantung in the German sphere of influence, Hsi-an-fu can be reached by the Hoangho, a journey of only about five hundred and fifty miles. situation would become exceedingly compli-

ho, a Journey of only about five nundred and fifty miles.

The sudden recall of the British troops to Shanghal after they had ostensibly left for Welhal-wel is a significant incident. It now remains to be seen whether other Powers will send contingents for a joint occupation, or the Yang-tse is to be Egyptianized by England alone. The report of the landing of Russian troops in Corea, if true, is also significant taken in connection with the intended despatch of Japanese troops already spoken of, Pyongyong, the point reported as occupied, is on the road from Manchuria to Secula short distance north of the Taidong River, and about half way between the Corean capital and the Manchurian frontier.

### THE ANTARCTIC REGIONS.

nly man who has passed the long polar night

both in the Arctic and Antarctic regions. All who read his book. "Through the First Antarctic Night," (Doubleday & McClure Company, New York, 1900) will have no doubt that Dr. Cook believes the Arctic, as a winter resort, has advantages over its southern counterpart. The black polar night in the realm either of the northern or southern ice king is sufficiently disheartening and destructive of human energy but, in Dr. Cook's opinion, the Arctic has some redeeming features. During his winter in north Greenland he had the Eskimaux to assist, instruct and amuse him and found. the penguins of the south a very sorry substitute for the simple, good-hearted natives of the north. Then the clear and cold Greenland weather was somewhat exhilarating even in the darkness while the fogs of the south brought by the wet, warm northerly winds were most depressing in their effects upon the health and spirits of the Belgica's little company. It is well known that Dr. Cook was the surgeon and anthropologist of the Belgian Antarctio expedition which passed the season of 1898-99 in south polar waters. His book is a well written and entertaining description of the novel experiences of this expedition which was the first to pass the polar night in the Antarctic. Though Dr. John Murray, one of the foremost promoters of the renewal of Antarctic enterprise, has humorously referred to the possibility of finding in those mysterious regions a Princess of Antarctics or the remains of paleolithic man, no one will be surprised to hear that Dr. Cook's duties as an anthropologist were exceedingly light during his solourn in the far south. He gives, however, one of the most interesting descriptions yet written of the Ona Indians of Tierra del Fuego whom he had an excellent opportunity to observe. Some of the most striking photographs of the large number in this volume are of these most southern residents of America. He was also the photographer of the expedition and no camera ever rendered better geographical service than that with which Dr. Cook caught the manifold aspects of this almost unknown part of the world. The rugged coasts, mountains and glaciers of Graham Land, the cities f penguins and cormorants and other types of bird and sea life, the Antarctic pack in all its aspects and the characteristic forms of feebergs iominating the expanse of frozen sea have many illustrations.

The Belgica spent thirteen months frozen in the pack, drifting to and fro, but on the whole in a westerly direction. Not a soul wished to spend the night in the ice, but the ship had been steered into it and was unable to get out until late in the second summer of her imprisonment. It was not a pleasant situation, for though the Belgica was not greatly damaged by pressure she would have been crushed it a field of ice two miles in diameter had pressed upon her in the wrong situation. If a serious accident had befailen there would have been no escape for there are no Upernaviks or other places of refuge as in the Arctic regions.

The effects of the Antarctic night upon the health of the men were serious. suffered from aniemia in a more severe form than Dr. Cook met in his Arctic experiences or than is recorded in the literature of polar exploration. Of the eighteen men on ship board one officer died and another barely escaped death. The men became pale, the heart action grew feeble and the stomach and other organs were sluggish and refused to work. There was difficulty of respiration if the

There was difficulty of respiration if the slightest exercise was taken. All these unfavorable conditions disappeared when the summer day fairly returned.

While in the ice pack the Belgica's position was between 70 degrees and 71 degrees 36 minutes south latitude. The mean temperatures, both for summer and winter, were considerably lower than at the north end of Spitzbergen which is nine degrees nearer the pole. The scientific staff could explain this low temperature only by the absence of land toward the north and the probable proximity of an Antarctic continent entirely covered with ice. Every time the wind blew from the north the temperature rose to zero even in midwinter;

arctic continent entirely covered with ice. Every time the wind blew from the north the temperature rose to zero even in midwinter; but as soon as the wind shifted and blew from the south, the thermometer descended abtruptly, even in midsummer, to a very low temperature.

The scientific results, summarized in appendices, are very sensibly presented in a manner to interest and inform the general public for whom this handsome volume, from end to end, is intended. Dr. Cook does not agree with the prevailing opinion that there are no commercial rewards of polar enterprise commensurate with the cost. He says there are oil seals, penguins and whales in abundance. There is no reason why profitable fisheries should not be carried on as off the coasts of Labrador and Greenland. Penguins are already being taken at the Falkland Islands for their oil. There are countless millions of them further south. Finback and bottle nose whales were seen in great numbers. Their oil is somewhat inferior but the hunt for similar whales in Norway has given profitable employment to thousands of men in the past ten years. It will not pay, however, to fit out whaling and sealing expeditions in Europe and North America for so distant a hunting ground. These industries may be made successful only by establishing permanent bases either in the southern parts of South America or Australia. establishing permanent bases either in the Antarctic or on sub-antarctic islands or in the southern parts of South America or Australia.

### LATEST LESSONS IN CACTIOS. Deductions From the British Army's Experi

The first practical effect of the lessons of the Boer war on British Army training has just appeared in a circular letter addressed by Sir Power Palmer, the acting Commander-in-Chief in India, to the commander of the four military divisions into which India is divided. Three schemes for tactical training are proposed in the circular and the Lieutenant-Generals commanding are left to make their choice of these

Recent events in South Africa have shown in a striking manner the value of cavalry in s reconnoissance on a broad front, the enormous importance to columns of having the country the situation in Pekin had been somewhat rethoroughly reconnoitred in advance, and the disastrous results of troops coming under breech-loading fire where such reconnoissance has not been thoroughly carried out. The intelligent use of cavalry especially in reconnot tring is, under present conditions, a more pronounced factor of success than ever. Where formerly troops could approach to within 1,000 or 1,200 yards of infantry fire and extricate themselves with triffing loss, this is no longer possible, and troops coming within 2,000 yards of infantry must suffer heavily in any close formation

The main lessons which Sir Power Palmer thinks are to be drawn from the Boer war are laid down in fourteen paragraphs which seem important enough to reproduce. They are:

First - The great value of intrenchments; the change in their character, which will be introduced, and in the accepted views as regards the position in which they will be placed. Second—The enormous distances up to 2,500 yards,

at which long-range rifle fire can be used with effect, especially against masses. Third-The power of acting on the defensive on a

broader front than heretofore recognized owing to the containing power of the magazine rifle and the great importance of this to the defence.

Fourth-The importance of great mobility on the part of the defence, so that a comparatively small force can be rapidly moved to threatened points. This necessitates high physical training or the use of Fifth-The impossibility of successfully carrying

out frontal attacks on anything like open ground un less the defenders have been drawn off or weakened by Sixth-The difficulty of locating the enemy's fire and onsequently of replying to it. due to long range and

smokeless powder, and the well-selected position of Seventh-The necessity of a longer preparatory artil lery fire. This is not always recognized in peace manœuvres; and that artillery fire is required at such longer ranges than heretofore accepted.

Eighth-The great value of independent fire at all ranges as compared with voileys, and the importance of individual marksmanship. Ninth-The importance of intrenchments in the offensive on positions won (e. g., Spion Kop) as a base

for further advance. Tenth-The great difficulty of reconnotiring the enemy's position before committing troops to the attack, and consequently (given plenty of ammunition) the difficulty of estimating the etrength of the defence, as magazine rifles lead to overestimating the

number of defenders. Eleventh-The great containing power of small rear guards, due to magazine rifles and long-range fire. Twelfth-The necessity of teaching officers and non-commissioned officers the value of cover, and not o expose themselves as they do, especially on the sky line in hill warfare. Dr. Frederick A. Cook of Brooklyn is the

Thirteenth-The necessity in the cavalry and artil-

lery for learning to spare their horses as much as pos-

sible; this is especially applicable to cavalry at mancurres, when every man should dismount if halted for even a few minutes; and occasionally horses should be led. Fourteenth-That no real success, but only tempo-

rary checks, can be obtained without counter-attacks and following up successes; this was conspicuously absent on the Boer side.

The general experience gained proves that far from laying down any special system of tactics for general use, it is absolutely necessary to adapt organization and tactics to those of the enemy. Sir Power Palmer then makes a reflection which any knowing the British Army will appreciate. It is that the responsible authorities "are very prone to run into extremes and copy too servilely or change tactics after each war, small or great." It would, he says, be in the highest degree dangerous to deduce any special system of infantry tactics from the Boer war beyond the fact that looser formations are imperative, and light infantry and skirmishing training a sine qua non against

the magazine rifle. the points enumerated, which are so succinct that even the non-professional reader can understand them, while the professional reader will seize their meaning and significance a once. The admissions they tacitly make are practically an acknowledgment of British defeat from the technical point of view, a defeat which would have been materially complete had the Boers been in anything like equal numbers with the British, and been able to throw large bodies of troops on the decimated and broken British battalions in such affairs as Colenso, Spion Kop, Vaal Krantz, Magersfonteln and elsewhere. But the most important deduction is in that paragraph in which the value of individual marksmanship and independent firing is dwelt upon. It may be said to sum up the whole question. It is on the intelligence and training and physical condition of the individual soldier that the value of an army depends. The British land and social system, however, has so acted that the men, with few exceptions, who were sent out to assert British supremacy in South Africa were inferior in all these respects to their adversaries. Hence the spectacle of 250,000 men being required to overcome the resistance of an enemy who never at any time numbered more than 85,000 in the field.

# Won His Bet.

From the Chicago Daily News. In some manner the cheeky man gained a mittance to the senior partner's private office "Don't want any books, brooms or soap, said the senior partner, without looking up. "Sir!" exclaimed the cheeky man, "I would inform you that I am no pedler."

"Then who are you?" "A sporting gentleman, sir." "What business can you have with me?"

"I wish to make a bet."

"Look here! I am no—
"Took here! I am no—
gentleman's bet. I bet you, sir, that I hold up my thumb and after I lower it you leave the room."

The senior partner threw down his pen.
"Five dollars that I will not leave the room."

"Done!"

Up went the cheeky man's thumb.
"Wait!" called the senior partner, "this is so easy that I would like to make it \$10."
"Make it \$20 if you like."
"All right, it is \$20."
The cheeky man raised and lowered his thumb.
"You don't see me leaving the room," said the senior partner.

dor partner, dor partner, admitted the cheeky man, admitted the cheeky man, admitted the cheeky man,

irty minutes.
"I'm still here."
"So I see."

"So I see." Fifteen minutes passed.
"You'd just as well pass over the \$20."
"It is early yet."
Ten more minutes skipped merrily.
"Look here!" said the senior partner, suddenly, "when is the time up?"
"There is no time limit, sir. If you remain in this room the money is yours; when you leave I win. This evening, to-morrow, next week; it makes no difference to me."
Then the senior partner gave in. "Take the money!" he roared, "but if it wasn't for catching the Oak Park train I would stick you out and win."

#### T. C. Brophy Not a Social Democrat. Mr. Thomas C. Brophy, who was the Socialist

Labor candidate for Governor of Massachusetts 1896 and 1897, writes to THE SUN correcting statement in a despatch from Boston, on "Who was the first Socialist elected to office." in which Mr. Brophy is made to appear as a member of the Socia Democratic party. He declares that he is in no way connected with that organization and was opposed t ts formation three years ago.

### A Level-Headed Centenarian. From the Chicago Inter Ocean.

MOUNT VERNON, Ill , Aug. 15 .- Daniel Crabte aged 100 years, the oldest man in Jefferson county, and who has voted the Democratic ticket for man years, announces that he will support McKinley and Roosevelt this year.

BRIERWOOD COMES FROM ITALY NOW. Calabria Is Where Most of It Grows and

Leghorn Is the Centre of the Trade. From the London Times. The wood from which brier pipes are made not the root of the brier rose, but the root of the large heath known in botany as the Erica | 215 West Fifty-seventh street Oct. 1. The arborea Our "brier" is but a corruption of prospectus, which will be issued next week, the French bruyère-broom or heath. The brier-root industry has had a somewhat curious history. First begun in the Pyrenees some fifty years ago, it travelled along the French Riviera and the Ligurian coast, taking Corsica by the way, to the Tuscan Maremma, and it has now reached Calabria in the south, which is at present its most flourishing centre. Naturally, when a district has been exhausted of all its roots the industry must come to an end there, and the opinion has been expressed that the Italian branch of it cannot last much more than another ten years. Leghorn has always been the centre of the export of Tuscan brier root since the Maremma industry came into existence, but, as the south Italian brier is of superior quality, a large quantity of the Calabrian root is also imported into Leghorn for selection and subsequent export. The total export from Leghorn is estimated at 50,000 hundred weight in the year, valued at about \$140,000.

the root that arrives in Leghorn has already been cut on the spot into the shape in which it is exported to the pipe-manufacturing centres, which are principally, as regards Italian brier. St. Cloud, in France, Nuremburg in Bavaria, and various towns in Rhenish Prussia and Thuringia. The roots, which are sometimes of a circumference of two feet or more, are cut into blocks and then bolled. If there is any defect in the root which has not been discovered before the boiling process the blocks will split sooner or later. Brier-root blocks are cut into about twenty-five different sizes and three principal shapes. The shapes are "Marseillaise," "releve" and "Belgian." The first two are the more usual shapes; from the first are cut the ordinary brier pipes, which have bowl and stem at right angles; "releve" blocks are out into a shape for hanging pipes, and "Belgian" blocks, for which there is but small demand, are shaped to fashion into pipes which have bowl and stem at an obtuse angle. The minimum size of "Marseillaise" blocks is about 3 inches long, 2 inches thick and 1½ inches the root that arrives in Leghorn has already 3 inches long, 2 inches thick and 1% inches

Fully half the export is Calabrian root. All

3 inches long, 2 inches thick and 1½ inches broad.

The Calabrian blocks, selected at Leghorn and exported thence, seem to be in favor with the trade, as they remain so long on the dealer's hands that they would be almost certain to split before export if they were defective. A Leghorn dealer who does his own cutting in Calabria has first to send the roots by wagon to his workshops, where they are boiled and cut, thence again by wagon to the Seacoast, where they are placed in lighters for shipment to Leghorn. At Leghorn they are once more transport to the warehouses, where they are unpacked for selection. They are then repacked in bales and carted to the goods station for conveyance abroad. Hence a considerable time must clapse before they leave the hands of a merchant who does his own cutting in Calabria. A considerable number of blocks is sent to the United States, but apparently, none whatever to the United Kingdom.

# As She Was Spelled in Boston.

From the Boston Evening Transcript. "Every Bostonian who went to Paris this immer," remarked a gentleman who had just sturned from there, "was not satisfied until he

"Every Bostonian who went to Paris this summer," remarked a gentleman who had just returned from there, "was not satisfied until he had done one thing."

"What was that?" was the query.

"Inspected the model of Greater Boston, which was made here and sent on with so much care. If a little more care had been exercised in the inscription marked upon it, it would have reflected greater credit upon the Athens of America. Imagine my surprise when I read "Topographical model of the Boston metropolitan district, hor zontal scale 1: 14,000, virtical scale, 1: 2333. That 'virtical' loomed up as imposing as the Effel Tower, but I thought that it was only a single slip and so I went around to the next side to find the location of my house. It was there and with it another 'virtical.' In short, the error was repeated four times in short, the error was repeated four times in bright, gilded letters."

# Porto Rico and Hawati.

Porto Rico and the Hawaiian Islands afford some nteresting analogies and contrasts. In area Porto Rico is just about one-half as large as Hawaii, but has about nine times as many inhabitants. Both regions lie under the northeast trade winds. which bring them abundant rainfall and so modify the climate that Porto Rico is the most healthful

island in the West Indies, while the mean, annual temperature of Hawaii is 10 degrees cooler than that of any other land in the same latitude Both countries have mountains, which condense the olsture-laden trade winds, with the result that the

northern, and particularly the northeastern parts of all the islands have enormous precipitation, while there are regions south of the mountains where the rainfall is comparatively small. Thus the annual rainfall in the northeast of the island of Hawaii is about ten times as great as it is south of the big volcances, and there are some areas in the southers parts of other islands in this group that have only fifteen to twenty inches of rain in a year. So much of the precipitation is arrested by the Porto Rican Mountains that the north side is called the rainy part and the south side the arid part of the island, though, judged by our standards, the south side is well watered; but some tropical crops there cannot live unless constantly watered and they require trrigation.

In the Hawatian group the percentage of fillteracy is small. About 80 per cent. of the native Hawaitan can read and write, and also about 90 per cent of the white races, except the Portuguese, and about 50 per cent of the Japanese and Chinese. In Porto Rico the percentage of illiteracy is very large, as com paratively few of the farming class, which forms

most of the population, can read and write. While the population of Porto Rico is about nine times as great as that of the Hawaiian Islands, its sea trade is very much smaller. The reason for this is that a vast number of the small farmers of Porto Rico raise little or nothing for export and buy very little. while raw sugar, the greatest staple of Hawali, is practically all exported and the country buys a great deal of machinery, dry goods, clothing, groceries and provisions, fertilizers and other articles. Thus it happens that the total export and import trade of the Hawaiian group in 1899 was over \$41,600,000 while the total sea trade of Porto Rico in the year and nine months since it came under American control has been a little less than \$30,000,000. But the island is recovering from the unsettled condition which war produced and its commercial growth is gratifying.

# Food Supply of the United Kingdom.

From the Geographical Journa A careful study of the question of the food supply of the United Kingdom, leading to results somewhat at variance with ideas entertained on the subject in some quarters, is contributed to the Journal of the Royal Agricultural Society (March 31, 1900) by Mr. R. F. Crawford. The writer begins by estimating the amounts produced at home and imported from abroad of the four fundamental articles of food-wheat, meat, potatoes and milk-for all these must, he holds, be considered in the study of the problem.

The results obtained show that the home contribution s. in the case of wheat, less than 25 per cent of the whole consumption; of meat, as regards which the state of things is much more satisfactory, about 62 per cent; of milk (including butter and cheese), about 55 per cent.; and of potatoes, practically the whole. But even these figures are too favorable, for the live stock raised in this country has largely to depend on foodstuffs grown abroad. In view of the difficulty of obtaining the value of these in their converted form, Mr. Crawford attempts to calculate the acreage that would be necessary to produce an equal amount of such food-stuffs at home. finally adding this to the area required to produce an eqivalent of the imported supplies of wheat meat and milk. The total number of acres so obtained is 22,999,000, this being considered distinctly moderate estimate. Therefore, as the area now under crops and grass is 47,800,000 acres, it is clear that we could not, as has been thought possible by some, add to our productive surface anything approaching the area represented by the imports of wheat, meat and milk. On the other hand, the law of diminishing returns precludes the possibility of any large increase of productivity through radical changes in methods of farming. &c. - At the end of his paper Mr. Crawford compares the

state of agriculture in the United Kingdom with that prevailing in Belgium, Germany and France, showing that there is no foundation for the idea that the first named is able nearly to feed her people from her own soil: and that, judged from the standpoint of pro-ductivity, the system of farming in this country is, if anything, superior to that of beigium and far ahead of those of France and Germany. This holds good both in respect of the acreage required to feed a given number of persons, and still more in respect of the amount produced per agricultural worker.

## Wants to Hear From Kentucky, Arkansas and Oklahoma. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: You have

published "A Missourian's Tribute to Water." it a round robin and bring in Arkansas and Okla homa, too, if possible A tribute to water would cer-tainly be incomplete without a word from each of

homa, too, it complete without a word tron
tainly be incomplete without a word tron
tainly be incomplete without a word tron
with S. Gidley. 

players, and they are
twenty years' ago.

ART STUDENTS' LEAGUE,

Plans for the Winter Term-New Instructors and New Classes.

The Art Students' League of New York wil reopen its schools for the winter term of 1900-1901 in the American Fine Arts Building at shows that a number of changes have been made in the teaching staff and that it is proposed to try and give instruction in new and special lines of work during the season. There will be six sessions daily of the life classes for will be six sessions daily of the life classes for painting and drawing, three for men and three for women. H. Siddons Mowbray, N. A., and George De Forest Brush, N. A., have been induced to return to the league as instructors and will have charge of the men's morning class and the men's evening class, respectively. Other instructors in this branch will be Joseph De Camp and Kenyon Cox. The class in painting from the costumed model and head will remain in charge of Joseph De Camp. Kenyon Cox, J. H. Twachtman and Bryson Burroughs will give instruction in the day antique classes, and Mr. Twachtman will also have charge of the afternoon class in still life painting. Other classes and the instructors will be as follows: Antique painting, evening, George De Forest Brush and William St. J. Harper; illustration and costume, evening, William St. J. Harper; sculpture, evening, William St. J. Harper; sculpture, at the Buffalo Pan-American Exposition; Charles R. Lamb, architect of the Dewey arch, and other members of the National Sculpture are to cocperate with the league in its efforts to make this department of the school of immediate practical benefit to a large class of young sculptors who find employment in architectural, industrial and ornamental branches of the art. Illustration and sketch classes will be instructed by B. West Clinedings and William T. Evans. Classes in composition will be in charge of Arthur W. Dow and Robert Blum, N. A., and the latter will also conduct special classes in architecture as related to mural painting, perspective and ornamental design. painting and drawing, three for men and

### Army War Pay.

The Acting Comptroller of the Treasury has decided, in reply to a question from the Adjutant-General, that officers and enlisted men of the present "Volunteer army," will not be entitled to the two months' extra pay allowed in January, 1899, to those persons who volunteered in the Spanish war. His reason is that the acr of Jan. 12, 1899, gave this gratuity to Volunteers after the service for which they entered the army had been completed, with a very few exceptions. The present "Volunteers" have not finished their work, so that there is "no intelligent basis as to what extra pay Congress may deem appropriate to them on muster-out and discharge." The two armies, the army of 1898 and the "Volunteer army" of to-day, are essentially different in character. The present "Vol-unteers" are really short-term Regulars, and unteers" are really short-term Regulars, and should not receive more favors than the Regulars. The fact that our army is limited in numbers, and that we have no provision of law for increasing it temporarily, or for giving an officer local or temporary rank higher than that he holds, compels us to adopt the roundabout expedient of creating a "Volunteer" army, with a limited existence. This does not warrant the bestowal of extra pay to persons enlisted in the "Volunteer army," unless the real army gets its share too. The enlisted men of both Regular and "Volunteer" armies are getting "war pay" now, 20 per cent, more than pesce pay. They are also doing a lot of hard and good work. If there is to be any gratuity—the Acting Comptroller hints pointedly that an act to bestow it is in order—it should go to the Regular as well as to the "Volunteer."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: I, too, reside in Harlem in 114th street West. At this moment (6 P. M.), one fellow is yelling in a most ear-splitting voice, "Peechus," and his small boy is acreaming also, "Peechas;" another fellow, trying to drown also, "Peechas;" another fellow, trying to drown the others, is yelling, "Meellins," and still another bawling "Bennanas," while a hand organ is giving us a heavy supply of street and dancing hall tunes and some forty-odd boys and girls are yelling to the top of their lungs or throats all sorts of orles.

Not a policeman is ever in evidence and for a privite citizen to interfere means for him insults. It is a little too early for the boys with the "putty blowers" to cover the window sills, buildings and walks with "putty balls," but they will be along between 7 and 8 o'clock.

Boys and girls make the evenings unbearable here till nearly half past 10.

This is a true picture of the block from Eighth to Seventh avenue and some one is remiss in his duiy.

Just why forty or fifty children, who should be in bed, are permitted to disturb the peace seven evenings every week is a great mystery to

Stephen Roper and the Engineers

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Ser In the Sunday SUN of Aug. 12 there appeared an account of Stephen Roper's misfortunes. Among the state ments made one says "that years ago he organised the National Association of Steam Engineers and for that reason seldom failed to find friends." The association meant was the National Association of Stationary Engineers, as on previous occasions statements of similar character have been put forth in behalf of Mr. Roper. Mr. Roper has never been prominently identified with the above-mentioned association, and the innumerable instances where he has been assisted by members of that aspociation was due to his pitiable appearance rather than any feeling of obligation.

New York, Aug. 15.

# Jewish Ancestry of Roosevelt

From the Washington Post. EDITOR POST: I take great pride in supplying you ith some information concerning the great Vice-Presidential candidate on the Republican ticket Theodore Roosevelt.

For the first time in the history of this great country a man of Jewish blood has been chosen to fill the second highest place in the nation, and all Jewish-Americans should rejoice at this great comdiment to their race. Theodor Ro Roosevelt-is descended from the old Jewish families of Holland and England, some of whom, being poor and oppressed, came to America several generations

I myself am descended from the old stock and of

ourse, related, though distantly, to Theodore Roose velt, Governor of New York and Vice-Presidential "Blood is thicker than water," and I feel sure that the Jewish-Americans will be proud to stand by this

distinguished representative of our race, regardless political attachments or differences in religion -whether orthodox or reformed.

The Best Polo Players.

From Balley's Magazine.

Mr. W. S. Buckmaster is acknowledged throughout the sporting world to be the finest player on any polo

#### ground at the present day. Mr. Foxhall Keene is by common consent the fines player America has sent us.

Foreign Notes of Real Interest. Field Marshal Von Blumenthal, "Unser Frits's" chief of staff during the Franco-Prussian war, has fust celebrated his ninetieth birthday, and is said to be sound in mind and body. He lives on a little country estate near Dessau in Anhalt. With the excep tion of the King of Saxony, he is the only prominent

commander in the war with France still alive. A religious ceremony, incomprehensible to temper ance people, took place recently at Fécamp in Normandy, when the Archbishop of Rouen blessed the new distillery buildings of the monastery where the Benedictine liqueur is made. The cordial had been manufactured for two centuries when the French Revolution broke out and the Benedictine monasters was destroyed. The recipe was saved by a family named Le Grand, and restored to the monks in 1863 A bronze statue to the Le Grand who revived the industry was unveiled before the benediction of the

Sir Walter George Barttelot, Bart., who was a Captain in the volunteer battalion of the Royal Sussex Regiment, was killed at Retlefs Nek. His only brother was Major Edmund Barttelot, whose mismanagement while in command of the rear guard of Stanley's Emin Pasha relief expedition in 1888 was the cause of the horrors of the starvation camp on the Aruwimi and his own death at the hands of the natives. After the publication of Stanley's book Sir Walter made strong efforts to rehabilitate his brother's eputation. He was 45 years of age and leaves a son to succeed him.

Mr. R. E. Foster of Oxford University scored 100 or over in both innings of the recent cricket match between Gentlemen and Players, being the first time that the feat has been accomplished in that match. He had previously scored two centuries in one match this year, and the repetition of the feat in one year in first-class cricket is a record for England. Last year he also made two centuries in successive innings-so that at 22 and in two years' play he has three double centuries to his credit, a record approached only by Dr. W. G. Grace, who has also made centuries in both innings three times, but in a cricket career covering twenty years. There are three Foster brothers now who are first-class ericket players, and they are compared to the three de